Officially called the White Earth Band of Chippewa, this band in northern Minnesota is one of the few that use the term Chippewa, most others preferring Ojibwe. Their reservation was established by treaty in 1867.

The elaborate flag of the White Earth flies proudly outside their casino and their tribal center (Letter, Barb Nelson, Public Relations Officer, 17 Jan. 1995). The flag has many elements on a white field (photo provided by the White Earth Band of Chippewa). At top and bottom are narrow stripes in blue, the traditional color for the sky and for water. The left and right sides have serrated borders in red, the color of the people themselves. In the center a yellow disk represents the sun. Overlying the sun is a white bust of the bald eagle, Migizi, the most revered animal in the Ojibwe culture. Arching above the sun and eagle is “WHITE EARTH”, below is “TREATY OF 1867”.

Beneath the disk is a red peace pipe, a symbol of Ojibwe spirituality. For the Ojibwe, smoking tobacco signifies respect and honor for Mother Earth; the pipe carrier is a very important member of the traditional community. A stylized floral design in green and pink flanks the central disk on either side. This design—perhaps a morning glory or a similar vining plant—recalls the traditional beadwork with which the Ojibwe decorate their clothing and other works.